

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): All those persons have disappeared and now the Government has stepped in.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Is there now a registered association as the Kerala Kala Mandalam?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): No.

Mr. K. S. Panickar (*Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram*): What is the total amount due?

റാവുസാഹിബ്: ഐ. എൻ. മേനോൻ : ഇതിനുമുമ്പ് ഒരു പോളിത്തിൽ മ രൂപടി പറയുകയുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇപ്പോൾ കാത്തിരിയ്ക്കുക.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): May I know whether the amount as per the decree is realisable?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): Yes, I think so. At any rate, we have not been advised by our lawyers to say that it is not recoverable.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): Do you mean to say that lawyers are making enquiries as to whether a particular decree is realisable or not?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): We held some marketable securities.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): I am referring to decree debts.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*): I want notice.

BLACK HOLE MYTH—REMOVAL FROM TEXT BOOKS—STEPS TAKEN

71. Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether they have taken steps to remove the Black Hole myth from Text Books after consideration stated by them in answer to Question No. 364 (b) on the floor of the Legislative Council on 4th April, 1941;

(b) if not, the reason for delay?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*):

(a) Government have decided that the question need be considered only when it becomes an All-India affair.

(b) No answer is necessary in view of answer to (a) above.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (Kunnamkulam): So, Government is not going to make this change even though the Bengal Government have done it?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (Director of Public Instruction): My reply to that is that other governments have not done it, except the Bengal Government.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): How will it become an All-India affair?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (Director of Public Instruction): I can say how it can be an All-India affair. The point in my favour is that no other government has taken up the question. Secondly, I have made a reference to the highest educational authority for Madras, i.e., to the Registrar of the Madras University and I have got a very subtle reply. I addressed the Registrar: "Will you please ascertain from the research department and let me know whether it is not desirable that we should do away with the Black-hole myth from our history as the Bengal Government have done?" I will just read the reply to the same.—"I beg to inform you that I do not propose to obtain the views of the Professor of Indian History of this University regarding the authenticity or otherwise of the Black-hole myth and that this University cannot go into such controversial matters."

Mr. M. K. Devassy (Adur): Is the result of the Bengal myth over?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (Director of Public Instruction): It is still controversial, he says.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): Is he the final authority, so far as the Cochin State is concerned?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (Director of Public Instruction): He is the final authority so far as this University area is concerned.

CENTRAL JAIL PRISONERS—PARTICULARS REGARDING

72. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (Nellayi): Will Government be pleased to state.—

- (a) the total number of prisoners in the Central Jail, Trichur, at present;
- (b) of these, how many are juveniles and how many females;
- (c) whether the new Diwan visited the Central Jail; if so, what all suggestions he made for the better accommodation and treatment of the prisoners?